

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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IO-14 ACDA-19 /143 W

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R 281453Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6841

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS PRAGUE 2088

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CZ, UR

SUBJECT: CELEBRATION OF SLOVAK NATIONAL UPRISING

REF: PRAGUE 2061

1. COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES OF SLOVAK NATIONAL UPRISING BEGAN IN PRAGUE AUGUST 27. SOVIET PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION LED BY DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO AND INCLUDE BYLEORUSSIAN DEPUTY PREMIER KISELYOV, DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER MOSKALENKO, FIRST SECRETARY OF TULA PARTY COMMITTEE YUNAK, AND FIRST SECRETARY SUB-CARPATHIAN PARTY COMMITTEE ILNITSKY. AFTER ARRIVAL, DELEGATION RECEIVED BY HUSAK, BILAK AND DZUR. GRECHKO, MOSKALENKO, BILAK AND DZUR LATER VISITED PRESIDENT SVOBODA IN HOSPITAL (MOSKALENKO FORMERLY COMMANDED SOVIET 18TH ARMY OF WHICH SVOBODA'S 1ST ARMY CORPS WAS A PART.)

2. IN EVENING CEREMONIAL MEETING, PRAGUE LEADING PARTY SECRETARY KAPEK DELIVERED MAIN ADDRESS. KAPEK NOTED THAT

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ROAD TO SOCIALISM HAD NOT BEEN EASY AND STRESSED REACTIONARY

ATTEMPTS, LED FROM ABROAD, TO OVERTHROW REGIME; THIS WAS NOTABLE MANIFESTED IN 1968 AND 1969; HOWEVER, PAST FIVE YEARS UNDER LEADERSHIP OF HUSAK HAS SEEN DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY WHICH REFLECTS INTERESTS AND DESIRES OF ALL CITIZENS. RAPID PACE OF SOCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN PRESENT DAY WORLD REQUIRES STILL FASTER PROGRESS. ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE, KAPEK CONTRASTED STABILITY OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL UPHEAVALS IN THE WEST. WHILE ADMITTING THAT PRINCIPLE OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE CONTINUES TO GAIN GROUND, KAPEK STRESSED THAT EFFORTS OF ANTI-DETENTE FORCES IN WEST NECESSITATE CONTINUED VIGILANCE.

3. IN HIS ADDRESS, KISELYOV, AFTER PRAISING ROLE OF BREZHNEV IN STRENGTHENING PEACE AND REDUCING WORLD TENSIONS, ALSO SOUNDED CALL FOR CONTINUING VIGILANCE. WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN POSITIVE CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, EVENTS IN CHILE, MIDDLE EAST, AND CYPRUS INDICATE THAT SOCIALIST COMMON-WEALTH MUST CONTINUE TO BE WATCHFUL.

4. KAPEK'S ADDRESS RECEIVED FRONT PAGE TREATMENT IN AUGUST 28TH RUDE PRAVO. IN CONTRAST, HUSAK ARTICLE ON SLOVAK UPRISING, WRITTEN FOR SOVIET PRAVDA, APPEARS ON PAGE THREE.

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